

INL's Antibody Profiling (AbP ID) tests use a scanning sleeve to record results of unique individual antibodies that each person develops by the age of two years. Even identical twins have different antibody profiles.

INL antibody technology earns international media attention, Federal Lab award

By Keith Arterburn, INL Communications

The Associated Press released a science feature story on April 28 about INL's Antibody Profiling Identification (AbP ID) technology, which offers a rapid (two-hour), inexpensive method to identify forensic evidence, based on unique individual antibody patterns.

Within 24 hours, the <u>AP story</u> appeared on more than 130 international media sites including ABC News, CBS News, MSNBC, CNN, Fox News, Business Week.com, USA Today, and the International Herald Tribune in France.

Also, the Federal Laboratory Consortium has selected INL's AbP ID technology to receive its award for Excellence in Technology Transfer for 2008. INL Commercialization Manager John Snyder worked with INL's research team, led by Dr. Vicki Thompson, to successfully license the technology to Identity Sciences, LLC.

"All along, we have believed this technology could make a very important contribution to forensic science, and now with our partners at Identity Sciences we can make it available to law enforcement and other agencies," said Thompson.

Tom Harrison, INL's director for Technology Transfer and Commercialization, said, "This award validates the useful contributions of the work conducted by INL researchers and continues to highlight our ability to contribute technologies to the marketplace. We are very proud of our team in receiving this award."

In announcing the selection, the FLC awards committee noted, "The award recognizes laboratory employees who have accomplished outstanding work in the process of transferring a technology developed by a federal laboratory to the commercial marketplace."

In addition to offering a rapid and inexpensive method to identify forensic evidence at a crime scene, AbP ID includes a testing system and innovative pattern recognition software, which will complement DNA testing as a valuable forensic tool.

"The FLC award is an honor for our whole team. It's gratifying to know that our commitment to the technology and our perseverance in developing it and finding the right licensee is recognized by our peers. This recognition will speed adoption of the technology by forensic, enforcement and supervisory communities," said Snyder.

FLC is the nationwide network of federal laboratories that provides a forum to develop strategies and opportunities for linking the laboratory mission technologies and expertise with the marketplace. There are more than 250 FLC members, including major federal laboratories and centers and their parent departments and agencies.

In 2007, INL licensed the antibody profiling technology to Identity Sciences, LLC (IDS), a Georgia-based global human identification company focusing on forensics and health care. IDS trademarked the product "AbP ID" and funded the research, beta site testing, marketing and all efforts to transfer the product from lab to the international distribution of products.

John Snyder and Bill Apel will represent INL at the national conference and award ceremony held in Portland, Ore. on May 8, 2008. INL has won several regional and national FLC awards since the consortium was organized in 1974.

More information on FLC is available here and the Far West Region Web site is here.

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